IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-17 and add new claims 18-47.

18. (New) An underwater cleaner having a suction nozzle housing with a suction nozzle communicating with a suction chamber and a suction mouth defining a suction plane, an exhaust channel to which a filter device is connected commencing at said suction chamber, a water jet nozzle through which pressurized water can be supplied to the suction chamber so as to create a negative pressure in said suction chamber according to the principle of a water jet pump opening out into said suction chamber, wherein the water jet nozzle opens out into said suction chamber in a region of the suction nozzle, with a distance between the water jet nozzle and a suction plane being smaller than the smallest inner width of the exhaust channel and wherein in the region where the water jet nozzle opens out into the suction chamber, a flow center line is inclined at an angle of $\geq 0°$ with respect to the suction plane.

19. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the flow center line of the water jet nozzle is inclined at an angle of between $>0°$ and $\leq 45°$ with respect to the suction plane.

20. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the distance between the water jet nozzle and the suction plane corresponds to maximum 2/3 of the smallest inner width of the exhaust channel.

21. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the distance corresponds to maximum half the smallest inner width of the exhaust channel.

22. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the distance between the water jet nozzle and the suction plane is smaller than half a maximum height of the suction chamber.

23. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the maximum distance between the water jet nozzle and the suction plane is 7 cm.

24. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the maximum distance between the water jet nozzle and the suction plane is 3 cm.

25. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the maximum distance between the water jet nozzle and the suction plane is 2.5 cm.

26. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the angle between the flow center line of the water jet nozzle and the suction plane is $\leq 25°$.

27. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the angle between the flow center line of the water jet nozzle and the suction plane is $\leq 15°$.

28. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein a water hose communicating with an external pressure source is connectable to the water jet nozzle.

29. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, said underwater cleaner having an integrated submersible pump the pressure socket of which is flow connected to the water jet nozzle through a connecting line, wherein the suction port of the submersible pump is disposed outside of the suction chamber and is hydraulically separated from the suction chamber.

30. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 29, wherein the submersible pump is battery operated.

31. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 30, wherein the submersible pump is connected to a battery housing via an electric cable configured to be a spiral channel.

32. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 31, wherein the battery housing is detachably fastened to an actuation rod.

33. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 32, wherein the battery housing is fastened to the actuation rod by a rubber band.

34. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 31, wherein the battery housing is integrated in the suction housing.

35. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 30, wherein the submersible pump is integrated in the suction nozzle housing.

36. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 29, wherein the suction port is disposed outside of the suction nozzle housing.

37. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 29, wherein the suction port is disposed in the region of the suction plane.

38. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 37, wherein a spacing between suction port and suction plane is smaller than the maximum height.

39. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 37, wherein a spacing between suction port and suction plane is smaller than half the maximum height of the suction chamber.

40. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, said underwater cleaner having an actuation rod inclined toward an actuation side and connected to the suction nozzle housing, wherein the exhaust channel and the filter device are disposed on the actuation side of the suction nozzle housing, which is turned toward a user.

41. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein on its suction side turned toward a body to be sucked up, the suction nozzle is framed at least partially by rubber lips or brushes forming a suction mouth.

42. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the suction nozzle has an inner width that is smaller than a width of the exhaust channel.

43. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein an axis of the exhaust channel is inclined at an angle of between 0° and 45° with respect to the suction plane.

44. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein an axis of the exhaust channel is inclined at an angle of between 10° and 15° with respect to the suction plane.

45. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the water jet nozzle opens out into the suction chamber on a side opposite the exhaust channel.

46. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the water jet nozzle is directed into the exhaust channel, and flow center line of the water jet nozzle is inclined at an angle of less than 180° with respect to the axis of the exhaust channel.

47. (New) The underwater cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the water jet nozzle is directed into the exhaust channel, and flow center line of the water jet nozzle is inclined at an angle of between 150° and 170° with respect to the axis of the exhaust channel.